GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:506
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION IN DELHI
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Toxicologists at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) have pointed out that Delhiites are slowly being exposed to poison through the air, water and food as reported in the Asian Age dated March 21, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to save people of the Capital from such types of pollution?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) According to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, the contents of the news item are general opinior on the subject and seems to have been based on the brochure circulated for the National Workshop and Conference on poison control which was held on 30-31st March, 2001.

(c) The specific steps taken by the Government to control pollution in Delhi include the following: -

(1) The Government has formulated a comprehensive Policy for Abatement of Pollution that lays stress on both the control and preventive aspects of pollution.

(2) Environmental epidemiological studies have been initiated in different parts of the country to find out the impact of pollution;

(3) A Status Paper on pollution in Delhi with an Action Plan for its control has been prepared and the same is under implementation.

(4) The ambient air quality of Delhi is monitored regularly through a network of monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme.

(5) Ambient air quality standards and emission standards for industrial units have been notified.

(6) Emissions from highly polluting industrial units and thermal power plants are regularly monitored and action is taken against the defaulting units.

(7) Unleaded petrol is now available throughout the country. Sulphur content in petrol/diesel also has been reduced.

(8) Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules,1989. More stringent emission norms have also been notified.